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SECURITY COMMITTEE

COMPUTER SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

1978

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I. Introduction

The Computer Security Subcommittee of the DCI Security Committee operates under the charter as provided by attachment 2, "Computer Security", of DCID 1/11, "Security Committee". This charter directs the Computer Security Subcommittee to address the following tasks:

- a. Review, formulate, and recommend to the DCI - policies, standards, and procedures to protect intelligence data stored or processed by computer.
- b. Formulate and recommend resource programming objectives.
- c. Facilitate within the Intelligence Community the exchange of information relating to computer security threats, vulnerabilities and countermeasures.

The Computer Security Subcommittee is currently chaired by STAT of NSA with the membership representing each Intelligence Community agency. The Office of Secretary of Defense, WWMCCS project office, and the Information Handling Committee are represented on a permanent observer basis.

II. Achievements

The most significant achievement of the Computer Security Subcommittee was completion of the rewrite of DCID 1/16 "Security

of Foreign Intelligence in Automated Data Processing Systems and Network," its approval by NFIB and the DCI, and subsequent issuance. This activity consumed considerable effort due to conflict over the inclusion or exclusion of an operational mode for computer systems termed Expanded Compartmented Mode. This was resolved at the NFIB level with the Expanded Compartmented Mode being excluded from the DCID.

An Ad-Hoc working group was formed to examine the Computer Security education and training needs of the Intelligence Community. Training needs were identified at two levels, the Information System Security Officer (ISSO) and management. Courses available within the IC were reviewed for content. This information was submitted to the CSS for review and action. Using this report as a basis, the CSS will provide a recommended training program for the two levels of interest.

III. Current Activities

The Computer Security Subcommittee, in an effort to better structure its activities and priorities, has established a mechanism termed a Committee Action Resolution (CAR). The CAR will be used to determine requirements, define objectives, state actions, and establish resource requirements, timing, and priorities,

as well as fixing responsibilities. CAR's are to be responsive to the Subcommittee charter as established by DCID 1/11. Four CAR's are currently identified and are being formally developed. The four CARs are:

- a. CAR #1 - Chaired by CIA to develop and/or take technical positions on policies, regulations, guidelines, and other issuances that bear on the computer security posture of the Intelligence Community.
- b. CAR #2 - Chaired by NSA to provide the basis and emphasis for Intelligence Community computer security programs and to direct the activities in computer security R&D toward solution of these problems and avoid duplication of efforts.
- c. CAR #3 - Chaired by Army to prepare, collect, and disseminate within the IC information regarding:
 1. foreign intentions and capabilities to exploit computer systems or operations,
 2. hostile exploitation attempts,
 3. assessment of damage by incidents of foreign exploitation,
 4. guidance on the release of computer security related information to foreign governments and international organizations.

d. CAR #4 - Chaired by Air Force to establish a Computer Security Subcommittee position on existing computer security training and indoctrination, and to develop a computer security training program to satisfy the various needs of computer security personnel in the Intelligence Community.

The Computer Security Subcommittee is reviewing drafts of Physical Security Inspection Guidelines and TSCM Inspection Guidelines for ADP Systems prepared by the Computer Security Working Group of the SECOM R & D Subcommittee. These two drafts represent the initial activity of the R&D Subcommittee in the computer security area. It is intended that the CSS and R&D Subcommittees of SECOM work closely together to foster, monitor, and conduct computer security R & D by the Intelligence Community.

The work of the Computer Security Subcommittee is of direct interest to the Information Handling Committee and the Office of Information Systems of the IC. It is the responsibility of the IHC to ensure the security of the information contained in new computer systems. The IHC is currently exploring an IHC Computer Security Work Program in an effort to push computer security issue resolutions. The Chairmen, IHC and CSS are currently working to establish the mechanism to satisfy the needs of the IHC.

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IV. Future Activities

A number of issues need to be addressed by the Computer Security Subcommittee during the coming year. The following describes a number of specific issues and the work program identified by the 4 CARs in the previous section.

A. Specific Issues

1. Additional policy is needed to amplify the networking section of DCID 1/16, especially in the area of inter-networking.
2. The current DCID 1/16 provides security requirements based on the type of information being processed. This approach is believed to be overly restrictive for specific computer systems. It has been suggested that a more realistic approach would be to address system functionally as a second condition to establish an adequate security level. This approach needs to be investigated and resolved.
3. A review of technical implementation policy i.e. degaussing, release of magnetic media, and release of

computer equipment should be undertaken to ensure
continued adequacy and currency.

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Chairman

Computer Security Subcommittee